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1. (Amended) A portable personal computer, comprising:
a base having a controller for controlling operations thereof, said base having a
a display attached to said base; and
a removable wireless keyboard for communicating with said controller in said
base through a signal interface when mounted into said base or through a wireless
connection when removed from said base, said keyboard having an upper surface, a lower
surface and at least one side surface with at least one of the lower surface and the at least
one side surface being received in said recess when said keyboard is mounted in said base.

2. The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said base has at
least one infrared device for receiving infrared signals.

3. The portable personal computer of claim 2, wherein said base has at
least one infrared device for transmitting infrared signals.

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4. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein the
recess is sized to receive both the lower surface and the at least one side surface of said
removable wireless keyboard.

5. (Cancelled)

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6. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said
removable wireless keyboard includes a pointing device.

7. The portable personal computer of claim 6, wherein said pointing
device functions as a computer track ball apparatus.

8. The portable personal computer of claim 6, wherein said pointing
device functions as a computer touch pad apparatus.

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9. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said signal interface includes a hardwired connection.

10. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said signal interface includes an infrared connection.

11. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said signal interface includes a radio frequency connection.

12. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said removable wireless keyboard further includes an infrared transducer.

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13. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said removable wireless keyboard includes at least one infrared device for at least transmitting infrared signals.

14. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said removable wireless keyboard has at least first, second, and third sides perpendicular to said upper and lower surfaces, and at least first and second infrared devices for at least transmitting infrared signals, said first and second infrared devices located on at least two of said first, second, and third sides of said removable wireless keyboard.

15. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said removable wireless keyboard includes a radio frequency transmitter and said base includes a radio frequency receiver.

16. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said removable wireless keyboard has a first mating connector and said base has a second mating connector, wherein said first mating connector and said second mating connector provide a hardwired connection when said removable wireless keyboard is mounted into said base.

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17. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said removable wireless keyboard has a power supply independent of said base.

18. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 17, wherein said power supply includes an external alternating current power adapter.

19. The portable personal computer of claim 17, wherein said power supply comprises at least one battery.

20. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 19, wherein said at least one battery is charged by said base when said removable wireless keyboard is mounted into said base.

21. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, further comprising at least one retaining device for securing said removable wireless keyboard to said base.

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22. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 21, wherein said at least one retaining device includes a spring ball bearing.

23. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 22, wherein said at least one retaining device includes a tab and a slot, one of said tab and said slot located on one of said removable wireless keyboard and said base and the other of said tab and said slot located on the other of said removable wireless keyboard and said base, wherein said tab fits into said slot to secure said removable wireless keyboard to said base.

24. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, further comprising an ejector mechanism for removing said removable wireless keyboard when said removable wireless keyboard is mounted in said base.

25. An input device for a portable personal computer, comprising a removable wireless keyboard capable of being mounted within a base of a portable computer for communicating with said portable computer through a hardwired interlocking connection when mounted within said base, or through a wireless connection when removed from said base.

26. The input device of claim 25, wherein said removable wireless keyboard has at least one infrared device for at least transmitting infrared signals.

27. The input device of claim 25, wherein said removable wireless input device has an upper surface and a lower surface, and at least first, second, and third sides perpendicular to said upper and lower surfaces, and at least first and second infrared devices for at least transmitting infrared signals, said first and second infrared devices located on at least two of said first, second, and third sides of said removable wireless input device.

28. The input device of claim 25, wherein said removable wireless input device has a first mating connector and said base has a second mating connector, wherein said first mating connector and said second mating connector provide a hardwired connection when said removable wireless input device is mounted into said base.

29. The input device of claim 25, wherein said removable wireless keyboard has a power supply independent of said computer.

Ag 30. (Amended) The input device of claim 29, wherein said power supply includes an external alternating current power adapter source.

31. The input device of claim 29, wherein said power supply comprises at least one battery.

32. The input device of claim 31, wherein said at least one battery is charged by said computer when said removable wireless keyboard is mounted into said computer.

33. The input device of claim 25, further comprising at least one retaining device for securing said removable wireless input device to said computer.

34. The input device of claim 33, wherein said at least one retaining device is a spring ball bearing.

35. (Amended) A method of controlling a portable computer with a keyboard, said method comprising operating a controller within a base of said computer with said keyboard while at least one of an upper surface and a side surface of said keyboard is received in a recess of said base, said keyboard generating operational signals to said controller when disposed at least partially within said base as well as when physically separated from said base.

36. (Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising transmitting said operational signals as light signals to said base when said keyboard is physically separated from said base.

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37. (Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising transmitting said operational signals to said base over a hardwired connection when said keyboard is connected with said base.

38. (Amended) The method of claim 36, wherein said transmitting said operational signals as light signals is accomplished by transmitting infrared signals.

39. (Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising supplying an independent power source to said keyboard.

40. (Amended) The method of claim 39, further comprising charging said independent power source when said keyboard is connected with said base.

41. (Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising physically connecting said keyboard with said base.

42. (Amended) The method of claim 41, wherein physically connecting said keyboard with said base includes:

securing said keyboard within said base; and
signaling said computer that said keyboard is connected with said base.

43. (Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising physically separating said keyboard from said base.

44. (Amended) The method of claim 43, wherein physically separating said keyboard from said base includes:

removing said keyboard from said base such that no physical connection remains; and
signaling said computer that said keyboard is physically separated from said base.

45. (New) A portable personal computer, comprising:
a base having a controller for controlling operations thereof;
a display attached to said base; and
a removable wireless input device for communicating with said controller in said base through a signal interface when mounted into said base or through a wireless connection when removed from said base;

wherein said signal interface includes a hardwired connection.

46. (New) A portable personal computer, comprising:
a base having a controller for controlling operations thereof;

a display attached to said base; and

a removable wireless input device for communicating with said controller in said base through a signal interface when mounted into said base or through a wireless connection when removed from said base;

wherein said removable wireless input device has a first mating connector and said base has a second mating connector, wherein said first mating connector and said second mating connector provide a hardwired connection when said removable wireless input device is mounted into said base.

47. (New) A method of controlling a portable computer with an input device, said method comprising operating a controller within a base of said computer with an input device which generates operational signals to said controller when connected with said base as well as when physically separated from said base, and transmitting said operational signals to said base over a hardwired connection when said input device is connected with said base.